**Health facility in rural areas, slums and unauthorised colonies**

2041. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after 60 years of independence, health facility in rural areas, slums and unauthorized colonies are not provided as per the guidelines of WHO because of reluctance of the qualified medical professionals to go to such areas;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Central or State Governments have any programmes to involve the registered medical unqualified practitioners to provide basic health facilities and to run national programmes after providing the basic training to them;

(d) if not, whether Government will take any initiative in this direction involving RMPs to solve the problem; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the non availability of adequate number of qualified medical professionals in rural areas. Medical officers/specialists/trained health care providers are reluctant to serve in far flung remote areas, the reasons being lack of support system in these areas. Health being a State subject, recruitment and posting of health personnel in health care institutions are the responsibility of the respective State Government. However, this Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been advising the State Governments from time to time to see to it that vacancies are filled up on priority basis.

(c) to (e) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Central Government. As regards the State Government (s), no information is maintained.

**Occupational therapy graduates**

2042. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced/contemplating to introduce a Bill to degrade the grade of physiotherapy and occupational therapy graduates;

(b) if so, the reasons, for degrading the grade of PT/OT graduates;

(c) whether Government will treat PT/OT graduates at par with MBBS graduates as compared to those in the developed nations;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons behind such discrimination, when they complete a $4^{1}/_{2}$ years degree course; and

(e) why there is no National Council for PT and OT like MCI and Dental Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has introduced the Paramedical and Physiotherapy Central Council Bill, 2007 during the current session of Parliament. There is no such provision in the Bill to grade PT and OT graduates.

(c) and (d) Physiotherapy/OT is a medically directed therapy. Physiotherapists/OT couldn't be the first contact persons for treatment of patients and it has to be administered

under the overall direction of medical professionals. Therefore, PT/OT graduates cannot be compared with MBBS graduates.

(e) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has introduced the Paramedical and Physiotherapy Central Council Bill, 2007 during the current session of parliament for coordinated development in the education of paramedical and physiotherapy with a view to regulating and maintaining standards of such education, maintenance of register of Paramedics and physiotherapists.

**Non-evasion imaging technology under ILTP**

2043. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the technology, obtained in the field of non-evasion imaging from Russia under the Integrated Long Term Programme (ILTP) signed between India and Russia by former PM late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev on 3rd July, 1987, has been evaluated in Indian hospitals and research institutions; and

(b) if so, whether this technology has been adopted for non-invasive images non-pathological diagnosis especially in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) According to Department of Science and Technology, non-evasion technology received from Russia is being examined by few research institutes in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

**Bill on sickle cell anaemia**

2044. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is thinking of introducing a Bill on National Sickle Cell Anaemia Control has been demanded by the Sickle Cell Society of India, Nagpur;

(b) if so, what is the gist of the recommendations contained in the proposed Bill; and

(c) what is the time-frame for introduction of this Bill so that it becomes an Act after Parliament have passed the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) At present there is no such proposal pending with Central Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**CGHS in Gujarat**

2045. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: